

Wandering & Wondering



John Maybury

EMPEROR WINSTON

Frank D. Winston, known to all in town as The Emperor of Pacifica, died September 11. Frank was a great civic leader, active in Pacifica Democrats, Pacifica Historical Society, and other organizations. I join all Pacificans and friends of Frank in mourning him. Please see eulogies to Frank by Marty Anaya and Barbara Arietta posted on PacificaRiptide.com. Memorial services were held September 15 at Temple Beth Israel Judea in San Francisco. Plans are under way for a Celebration of Life in Pacifica within the next couple of weeks. Watch this newspaper and PacificaRiptide.com for details. Questions? Call Barbara Arietta at 415-246-0775 or email barietta@hotmail.com.

WALKS FOR PEACE 2008

Sep. 21 11 a.m. California, San Francisco - Heartwalker Peace Project, a new kind of Peace Walk Connect with adults, children, peace organizations, speakers and musicians for a 3.5 mile. Justin Herman Plaza, Embaradero, San Francisco. 1 Market Street. Gathering on grass square. Across from Ferry Building. Close to BART.

PALINDROME

Are you tired of Sarah Palin and the media droning on about her? If so, don't bother reading this item. But if you are a political junkie with a jones for truthiness, I have good news. Now two Pacifica-based Web sites publish crunchy news nuggets on all the presidential candidates.

The first site is my blog: PacificaRiptide.com (click category ELECTION CENTRAL on the top-right sidebar). The new kid in town is a great research site published by a fellow Pacifican: TruthAboutMcCainPalin.com.



GET OIL OUT

Santa Barbara, whose beaches and marine life took the brunt of the 1969 oil spill, again says NO to offshore oil drilling. Santa Barbara City Council has voted to oppose offshore drilling. Forty years ago, I joined my fellow Santa Barbarians under the banner "Get Oil Out

(GOO)," and we cleaned up the oil-fouled sea birds and sands. Now the spirit of GOO is reborn. Let's hope the council vote helps prevent offshore drilling at Santa Barbara and elsewhere. And maybe our Pacifica council would consider a similar ban. Our own beaches here could be at risk.

VEGGIES SAVE

A United Nations climate-change expert says people can help stop global warming by eating less meat. Raising and processing livestock for meat creates a huge carbon footprint. By contrast, a vegetarian diet is much kinder to the earth and its atmosphere.

HEADLIGHTS FOR PEACE

Show your support for the candidate of your choice. Until the election, if you support Barack Obama, drive with your headlights on during the day. If you support John McCain, drive with your headlights off at night. Thank you for participating in this patriotic endeavor! (Hey, it's a joke, I'm just kidding, please don't try this at home, and don't write me any nasty comments. Go punch a speedbag.)

SCIENCE MUSEUM/PLANETARIUM

The original Morrison Planetarium opened in 1952 with the best technology of its day. Now, 56 years later, it will repeat the feat. When it opens on September 27, the new Morrison Planetarium will be the largest all-digital planetarium in the world. New projector and software technologies, driven in part by advances in the video game industry, will allow the planetarium to produce the most accurate and interactive digital Universe ever

created. Properly lit, the dome will seem infinite to the entering visitor, creating a uniquely immersive experience and a true-to-life recreation of a remote, luminous, and pristine sky. Audience members will view a show that fills almost half their field of view and moves at a rate of 30 images per second, which visually approximates an alternate reality—corresponding not to an experience under a dome, but to an experience inside an environment. The planetarium has the flexibility to host many events: live NASA feeds, broadcasts from Academy scientists in the field, solar eclipses half a world away, traditional star shows, school group shows, musical events, and more. In the opening year, the planetarium's main program will be Fragile Planet, a 30-minute virtual journey from the Earth to the outer reaches of the Universe and back—a journey to discovering how special the planet Earth really is. (calacademy.org)

FLOW, THE FILM

A new documentary—Flow: How Did a Handful of Corporations Steal Our Water?—comes to the Bay Area on September 19. Information and locations: FlowTheFilm.com. Irena Salina's award-winning documentary investigates what experts label the most important political and environmental issue of the 21st century: the world water crisis. Salina builds a case against the growing privatization of the world's dwindling freshwater supply with an unflinching focus on politics, pollution, human rights, and the emergence of a domineering world water cartel. Interviews with scientists and activists intelligently reveal the rapidly building crisis, at

both the global and human scale, and the film introduces many of the governmental and corporate culprits behind the water grab, while begging the question "Can anyone really own the water?" Beyond identifying the problem, Flow also gives viewers a look at the people and institutions providing practical solutions to the water crisis and those developing new technologies, which are fast becoming blueprints for a successful global and economic turnaround.

SHARP PARK SHOCKER

Jim Wagner takes classes at Skyline College, one class a semester since 1994. "Keeps the gray matter stirred up," he says. "Anyway, this spring I took San Francisco history. Of course, we had a term project to write. Because I knew very little about Sharp Park Golf Course history, I thought that would be a good topic, what with the trust, the clubhouse, and the course all being historic items. I stopped in at Kathleen Manning's Prints Old and Rare at Crespi Center to see if there were any old maps of the area. Kathleen asked me if I knew about the internment camp back there. I had no idea that existed. I used to shoot back there at the range and I've shot at the archery range out there many times when my son was younger. Never a clue. I decided to add that to my report. Well, there is not much info out there so I knew it was going to take longer than I had for the class so I turned in a traditional report on the history of the area and the buildings. The internment camp intrigued me so I kept digging. Little by little, information would come up. Soon I started seeing the same info repeated, which usually means that what's out

there you have already, so write the report. I know there is more research to be done and I'm pushing to get more people on board. More people, more time, more information. Congresswoman Jackie Speier's office contacted the San Mateo Historical Society and introduced me to the director. I'm trying to connect with the chair to be placed on their agenda in September to make a small presentation and to ask them to write an official letter to the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department to let them know, if they aren't already aware, that there is a historical site of interest to San Mateo County out there. I hope that at some point I can help secure a grant for someone to really study the site, map it, and catalog what's out there." You can read Jim's report, published exclusively on Pacifica Riptide.com. Click category TRUE CONFESSIONS on Riptide's top-right sidebar.

SITeseer

- Social whirl on wheels: CycleWorldNetwork.com
- Story of a Sign (best short film, Cannes): Flixxy.com, YouTube.com
- Green your gas tank: BiofuelOasis.com
- Great nature photos: Boston.com
- World Music Festival, S.F., November: DoorDogMusic.org
- Political buttons, t-shirts, stickers, signs: zazzle.com

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 - WanderingAndWondering.com
- e: mayburrito@goofbuster.com